

VE3FW

# LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. BOX 2571  
THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO  
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## LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CODE AND THEORY CLASSES

This little message is meant to answer a few questions about Amateur Radio (also known as Ham Radio) for you, and if you have any questions at all, please feel free to ask.

There will be a registration/orientation night on Wednesday September 10th, 1986 commencing at 7:00 p.m. at the Emergency Measures Organization building at the corner of Waterloo and Victoria Avenues with classes starting the following Wednesday September 17th. We will be handing out the Study Guide which you will be using, along with a course schedule on both evenings. You have until 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 17th to register, however, it is recommended you register as soon as possible as the course has an upper limit of only 20 students.

To become a licenced Radio Amateur, you must pass a Department of Communications exam, which contains three main sections. The first is the rules and regulations governing Amateur Radio. The next is a theory portion which offers basic electronics and radio theory, and finally, the Morse Code. You must be able to send and receive at a speed of 10 words per minute. The course covers all aspects of the exam, and we are quite confident that on the completion of our course that you should be able to obtain a passing grade.

Once you have obtained your Amateur Radio Certificate, the whole world of Amateur Radio awaits you. You will be able to talk to other Radio Amateurs all over the world in places you may not have even heard of! Via Amateur Radio it is possible to talk to people in South America, New Zealand, Africa, Japan, Europe, you name it. How about a ham in space? Well believe it or not, a local ham has done it. How's that for an "out of the world" contact? And that is just the beginning.

Amateur Radio Operators have put several orbiting satellites in space for the exclusive use of amateurs. You can also use your personal computer to "talk" to other amateurs. How about a television picture? Well, thats being done also. All in all, Amateur Radio is a very exciting and dynamic hobby, and in many ways, the world is at your finger tips.

I should also tell you a little about amateur licencing, and what your Amateur Radio Operators Certificate (or ticket as it is sometimes called) allows you to do. You can set up and operate your own amateur radio station (receiver and transmitter) and operate your station with a maximum power level of 1,000 watts. You will be issued a callsign by the Department of Communications (VE3---) for Ontario. It will be a unique callsign, as no one else in the world will have the same callsign. You can contact other radio amateurs all over the world on shortwave bands on frequencies assigned to Amateur Radio (there are quite a few of them). These frequencies are also known as "bands".

In addition to that, you are allowed full voice privileges on the amateur bands above 50 MHz. The most common band in use here in Thunder Bay is 144 to 148 MHz band, commonly referred to as a "two meters". The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club owns and maintains two repeaters or relay stations for club members. They are equipped with a telephone interconnect system which allows you to connect your radio to the telephone system for local telephone calls. Sorry, business calls are not allowed.

Once you have registered for the course, you will receive our monthly newsletter called HI-Q. It contains items of interest to local amateurs, along with words of wisdom from club members. As well, you are invited to attend our monthly meetings. They are held at the EMO building every second Thursday of the month, starting at 7:30 p.m. We usually have a guest speaker, or other items of interest to local amateurs. We hope you will attend.

The cost of the course is \$75.00, and after the September 10th orientation night, it is non-refundable. Classes will be held on Wednesday nights from 7 to 10:00 p.m. with a 15 minute coffee break at 8:30. The course fee covers the cost of the classes, which includes a copy of the Canadian Amateur Radio Relay League Study Guide, and an associate membership in the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club. Please complete the last page of this handout, and return it to the club secretary or course co-ordinator. If you would like to visit our club station VE3FW, it is located downstairs at the EMO building.

One final note: NO QUESTION IS FOOLISH IF YOU DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER. The instructors and club members are there to assist you. All you have to do is ASK.

Garnet Walker, VE3AUP  
Course Co-Ordinator  
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or

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President  
Lakehead Amateur Radio Club  
Phone 475-4662 (Evenings)